



PROCLAMATION

White Cane Safety Day
October 15, 2008

WHEREAS, the white cane, which every blind citizen has the right to carry, demonstrates and symbolizes the user's ability to achieve a full and independent life, and to show the capacity to work productively in competitive employment; and

WHEREAS, every person should be aware that the law requires motorists to exercise appropriate caution when approaching a blind person carrying a white cane or using a guide dog; and

WHEREAS, state law also calls upon employers, in both the public and private sectors, to use the employment skills of our blind citizens by recognizing their worth as individuals and rewarding their capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Barbara, with the cooperative assistance of the Santa Barbara South Coast Chapter, National Federation of the Blind of California, looks forward to a continued expansion of employment opportunities for, and greater acceptance of, blind persons in the competitive labor market,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby proclaim October 7, 2008 as **WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY** and call upon our schools to offer full opportunities for training blind persons, our employers to use the skills of competent blind persons by offering new opportunities for the blind, and all members of our community to recognize the white cane as an instrument of safety and self-help for blind pedestrians everywhere.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 7th day of October, 2008.



Marty Blum
MARTY BLUM, MAYOR